MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PEST SURVEY REPORTS 2007







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2007 Surveys

- European and Asian Gypsy Moth
- Karnal Bunt
- Area-Wide Nematode
- White Potato Cyst Nematode
- Exotic Moths
- Cereal Leaf Beetle
- Cereal Leaf Beetle Biological Control
- European Pine Shoot Moth

This report was compiled by Patricia Denke, Michele Mettler, and Kimberly Merenz, with contributions from our survey interns and technicians.

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Introduction to the Program

The Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) is a system of surveys conducted by USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ), to detect and delimit the spread of introduced plant pests. To achieve this goal, the USDA APHIS PPQ enlists the assistance of state cooperators. In Montana, the state cooperators are coordinated through the Montana Department of Agriculture, and include not only the Department of Agriculture, but also programs from Montana State University.

The Interns and Other Program Assistants

The Montana Department of Agriculture conducts several of the surveys. This would not be possible without the assistance of a group of dedicated people, who join the Department personnel for the summer as interns and survey technicians. During 2007, we were also joined by several data management specialists. We also had the invaluable assistance of Margaret Rayda, Pest Survey Specialist for North Dakota and Montana with the USDA APHIS PPQ.

Interns included Allissa Rafferty, Walter Scherer and April Wabeke. Allissa and Walter joined us from New York, and concentrated on surveys on the west side of the continental divide, including the various moth surveys and the plum pox virus survey. April is from Montana and concentrated first on the cereal leaf beetle survey, Karnal bunt, and then on the area wide nematode survey.

In addition to the interns, we had the assistance of several part-time workers. Kevin Grzebielski is also from Montana, and joined us for a second year of filling in where needed, including on the plum pox virus survey and the area wide nematode sampling. Kevin also took Karnal bunt samples. Chris Helseth was with us for a short time, concentrating on data management and entry. Christine Norman worked on data entry and management, and Kelly Elder came on the finish data manipulation with the development of drop down menu tables for the various surveys, and repair of the automatic NAPIS entry table program.

The report for 2006 can be found at http://agr.mt.gov/weedpest/caps/caps_06.asp.